


10 THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT MEDICINE SPENDING AND COSTS

Discussions about costs are important. Too often patients struggle to afford the medicines they need. Our industry is committed to working with policymakers on solutions that enhance the competitive marketplace, lower costs for patients and promote continued medical innovation.

**90% OF ALL MEDICINES
DISPENSED IN THE UNITED
STATES ARE GENERIC COPIES.**

- 1.** Today, there are more than 140 personalized medicines and 42% of new medicines in development have the potential to be personalized therapies that can be targeted to specific patients and their individual health needs.ⁱ
- 2.** Medicines are this country's best chance at tackling the country's biggest cost driver: chronic disease. Health conditions, such as cancer, diabetes and heart disease, are the leading causes of death and disability in the United States and account for about 90% of health care spending.
- 3.** 90% of all medicines dispensed in the United States are generic copies that cost a fraction of the price of the initial brand medicine. In addition, competition from generics and biosimilars are expected to reduce US brand sales by \$105 billion from 2019 to 2023.ⁱⁱ
- 4.** Due to negotiations in the market, net prices for brand medicines grew just 0.3% in 2018 after factoring in discounts and rebates.ⁱⁱⁱ
- 5.** On average, 40% of the list price of medicines is given as rebates or discounts to insurance companies, the government, pharmacy benefit managers and other entities in the supply chain who often require large rebates in order for a medicine to be covered.^{iv} These rebates and discounts exceeded \$166 billion in 2018 alone and are growing every year.^v
- 6.** Hospitals markup medicine prices, on average, nearly 500%. An analysis of 20 medicines also found the amount hospitals receive after negotiations with commercial payers is, on average, more than 250% what they paid to acquire the medicine.^{vi}
- 7.** The market-based Average Sales Price system helps control costs and spending in Medicare Part B. It is estimated that the government and seniors have saved \$132 billion from 2005 to 2017 as a result of switching to this system.^{vii} In 2016, Part B medicine spending was just 8% of total Part B spending and just 3% of total Medicare spending.^{viii}

8. Health insurers are shifting more costs onto patients through deductibles, increased use of coinsurance, and the use of four or more tiers for prescription drugs. The share of employer sponsored plans requiring deductibles for the pharmacy benefit has increased from 23% in 2012 to 52% in 2017.^{ix}
9. Unlike care received at an in-network hospital or physician's office, patients with high deductibles or coinsurance pay cost sharing based on the list price of a medicine, even if their insurer receives a steep discount. More than half of commercially insured patients' out-of-pocket spending for brand medicines is based on the full list price. Patients with a deductible have seen their out-of-pocket costs for brand medicines increase 50% since 2014.^x
10. Sharing negotiated discounts could save certain commercially insured patients with high deductibles and coinsurance \$145 to \$800 annually and would increase premiums about 1% or less.^{xi}



**PATIENTS WITH A DEDUCTIBLE
HAVE SEEN THEIR OUT-OF-
POCKET COSTS FOR BRAND
MEDICINES INCREASE 50%
SINCE 2014.**

ⁱ Tufts Center for the Study of Drug Development (CSDD). Personalized medicine gains traction but still faces multiple challenges. Tufts CSDD Impact Rep. 2015;17(3).

ⁱⁱ IQVIA Institute for Human Data Science. Medicine use and spending in the U.S.: A review of 2018 and outlook to 2023. <https://www.iqvia.com/institute/reports/medicine-use-and-spending-in-the-us-review-of-2017-outlook-to-2022>. April 2019.

ⁱⁱⁱ IQVIA Institute for Human Data Science. Medicine use and spending in the U.S.: A review of 2018 and outlook to 2023. <https://www.iqvia.com/institute/reports/medicine-use-and-spending-in-the-us-review-of-2017-outlook-to-2022>. April 2019.

^{iv} Vandervelde A, Blalock E; Berkeley Research Group. The pharmaceutical supply chain: gross drug expenditures realized by stakeholders. http://www.thinkbrg.com/media/publication/863_Vandervelde_PhRMA-January-2017_WEB-FINAL.pdf. Published 2017.

^v AJ Fein; Pembroke Consulting, Inc. Drug Channels Institute. "The Gross-to-Net Bubble Topped \$150 Billion in 2017." April 2018. <https://www.drugchannels.net/2018/04/the-gross-to-net-rebate-bubble-topped.html>

^{vi} The Moran Company. Hospital Charges and Reimbursement for Drugs: Analysis of Markups Relative to Acquisition Cost. October 2017. http://www.themorancompany.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/Hospital-Charges-Report-2017_FINAL.pdf.

^{vii} The Moran Company. Average Sales Price Reimbursement: Significant Savings from Prior Benchmark. December 2018. <http://www.themorancompany.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/AWP-Savings-Report-2018.pdf>.

^{viii} 2017 Annual Report of the Boards of Trustees of the Federal Hospital Insurance and Federal Supplemental Medical Insurance Trust Funds. July 2017. <https://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Statistics-Trends-and-Reports/ReportsTrustFunds/Downloads/TR2017.pdf>

^{ix} PwC Health and Well-Being Touchstone Survey, June 2017. <https://www.pwc.com/us/en/hr-management/publications/assets/pwctouchstone-2017.pdf>. Accessed March 2018

^x Devane, K. Patient Affordability Part One, The Implications of Changing Benefit Designs and High Cost-Sharing, Available at <https://www.iqvia.com/locations/united-states/patient-affordability-part-one> May 2018.

^{xi} Bungler, A., et al., Point of Sale Rebate Analysis in the Commercial Market: Sharing rebates may lower patient costs and likely has a minimal impact on premiums. Available at <http://phrma-docs.phrma.org/download.cfm?objectId=5F5FD190-AEDD-11E7-833F0050569A4B6C>